Loss by NTC Mills

777. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the losses suffered by NTC mills till the end of 1985-86;

(b) what are the reasons for the osses; and

(c) what steps Government have taken/propose to take to cut the losses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The nationalised mills under NTC have sufferd accumulated net losses amounting to about Rs. 736.39 crores, from 1974-75 to 1985-86.

(b) The Major reasons for losses of the mills under NTC are as follows:—

(1) old and obsolete machinery in most of the mills;

(2) increase in the prices of cotton and other inputs;

(3) power-cut and high cost of captive power, resulting in under-utilisation of installed capacity in various mills;

(4) increase in cost of coal, fuel, petroleum products etc.;

(5) increase in cost of dyes and chemicals;

(6) wage increase on account of increased DA etc; and

(7) excess labour force.

(c) Some of the important steps being taken to improve the performance of the mills under NTC are given below:—

(1) Periodic review of the working of the subsidiaries at the Holding Company/Government level.

(2) Greater enforcement of accountability of top managers.

(3) Millwise study of reasons of losses in heavily losing Mills.

(4) Selective modernisation programme/strategies have been adopted for result oriented gains within available resources.

(5) Efforts, are being made to implement workers' participation scheme in the management of all mills under NTC.

(6) To overcome the power shortage, self-generating capacity has been increased.

(7) Rationalisation of labour without tears & control on employment of labour in mills.

(8) Strict control and supervision over the operations of the mills.

(9) Improvement in product-mix.

(10) Infusing better management at all levels.

(11) Identifying the mills as profit centres and delegation of power and authority to the General Managers of the mills, with responsibility for performance.

(12) Bringing about economy in administrative expenses.

(13) Strict control and supervision on the filling up of vacant posts.

Support price for cotton

778. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in cotton prices due to bumper harvest during 1986-87;

(b) whether Government propose to announce any support price for cotton for the benefit of cotton growers; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) There is a decline in cotton process.

(b) and (c) Government have already announced minimum support price for cotton for 1986-87 season on 25th September, 1986 and these prices are Rs. 5/higher than last years prices in respect of basic varieties.

Indo-Nepal Treaty

779. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the experience gained in the working of the 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty and the need for a stronger and closer links between the two countries with the changed circumstances in the subcontinent, Government of India have considered the desirability of reviewing the Treaty for better cooperation and friendship between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Indo-Nepal Treaty reflects the close and friendly relations between India and Nepal which have developed over the centuries as a result of the historical, geographical and cultural affinities between the two countries. The Government of India are of the considered view that the Treaty continues to serve the cause of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Development of Tourism in J & K

780. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Central Government on the development of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir during the year 1985-86, region-wise; and

(b) the number of projects on which the funds are being spent?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) and (b) During the year 1985-86 two continuing projects of the Central Department of Tourism were under-execution in Jammu & Kashmir and the total amount spent on these projects aggregated to Rs. 20.50 lakhs. Rs. 17.50 lakhs on Bagh-e-Bahu in Jammu and Rs. 3.00 lakhs on Archaeogical tourist centres at Avantipur, Martand and Pandrathan in Kashmir.

New system for export of textile goods

781. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are adopting some new system for the export of textile products by adopting new non-quota exporter system;

(b) what is the extent of increase in the export expected by the new system; and

(c) which are the major countries that are importing textile goods from India for the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is too early to indicate a precise estimate of the extent of increase in exports. However, it is expected that the introduction of the new system would encourage exporters